



Attorney's Docket No.: 17109-002001/911

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Manuel Vega, et. al  
Serial No. : 10/022,249  
Filed : December 17, 2001  
Conf No. : 7196  
Title : HIGH THROUGHPUT DIRECTED EVOLUTION BY RATIONAL  
MUTAGENESIS

Art Unit : 1631  
Examiner : Channing S. Mahatan  
Customer No.: 20985

**Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

Dear Sir:

In connection with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-captioned application, and responsive to the Office Action, mailed April 17, 2006, Applicant requests consideration and entry of the following amendment and remarks

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450.

Stephanie Seidman